

TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE

Sub-Committee of Finance Committee

A **meeting** of the **TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE, SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**, was held on **Monday February 07, 2011, at 6:00 p.m., IN THE COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICE** in Berkeley County Administration Building, 1003 Highway 52, Moncks Corner, South Carolina.

PRESENT: Chairman Council Member Cathy Davis, Council Member Dennis Fish, Council Member Jack Schurlknight, County Attorney Nicole Scott Ewing, Deputy Supervisor and Finance Director Kace Smith, IT Web Master Frank Saldmarco, BCW&S Director of Administration Angela Pinson.

ALSO PRESENT: Council Member Timothy Callanan.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman C. Davis: "I'd like to call the Committee, Transparency Committee to order. I'd like to thank everybody for being here tonight. I think we got a variety here that's gonna help us look at that. I guess we can just follow the agenda."

Committee Member J. Schurlknight: "Ms. Chairman, before we get started on the agenda, just for clarification, we have members, I don't see our list of them. If you can just make a notation of me being on the list of this committee. Please madam. Thank you."

Chairman C. Davis: "Ok. I'll take care of that."

Council Member T. Callanan: "And you can list me as attending as well. Tim Callanan."

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF MEETING

- 1. Displaying on our website all revenue and expenditures in a manner that would be user friendly for our citizens.**

Chairman C. Davis: "Angela...Ok. Alright, I'm just going to throw these out for discussion and we'll kind of see where it goes. The first would be displaying on our website all revenue and expenditures in a manner that would be user friendly for our citizens. Which also would include a history and if possible I'd like to see twelve months. Are we able to go back twelve months at any given time?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "Ok."

Chairman C. Davis: "Is that doable? Is that a space constraint?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I don't think so."

(Mr. Saldmarco, via an IT Laptop, made available Web information for the Committee to view.)

Chairman C. Davis: "As far as storage goes?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I don't think that would be an issue...storage."

Chairman C. Davis: "How about Kace?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "So you want.....Are you asking for monthly revenues, totals I'd assume?"

Chairman C. Davis: "That's what's out there now. Correct? What is exactly out there now?"

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I can pull it up I think."

Committee Member K. Smith: "We're talking about revenues and expenditures."

Council Member T. Callanan: "I think the expenditures are on there now."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Yeah. Well the only expenditures that are on there are the checks that we write in the Finance office. Checks that are written in other offices are not currently on the web. Now we do write the majority of accounts payable checks in our office. But if the Treasurer's office issues a refund, it's not on there. Any checks that are written, certainly, child support checks, that are written in the Clerk of Court's office is not on there. Any disbursements out of any of the elected discretionary accounts are not on there. Disbursements out of the Master in Equity or the Delinquent Tax offices are not currently on there. Any checks that we write are on there."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Is it possible to set it up, you know there's certain....Whether those are listed as expenditures or not, reimbursements, refund from taxes, or checks for child support. I would hope that they're not listed as expenses or on the account. But that's really what you want to get out there. Now going back to the dates, the problem that I have with the dates right now is that if it's the first month of the fiscal year you're not going to have access to any past months. I mean it's just the trailing months versus the current fiscal year I think that makes more sense."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I have a question about what user friendly means, because that can mean a lot of different things to different people. I don't have the resolution that kind of kicked all this off but I think they'd asked for a searchable data base and that's a little more complicated but I'll have to defer to IT they may already be set up for that. Then just what we print now up there is just .PDF."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "and the .PDF's are searchable to a degree."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Right, with search ability input."

Council Member T. Callanan: "So not scanned. They are actually printed to .PDF?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "They are text. So they are in a .PDF, but they are text. So they are searchable."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Ok. Good."

Chairman C. Davis: "Any key word in that .PDF is searchable?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Yes."

Committee Member K. Smith: "I believe it is. Yes."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "It'll find you that in that document. What I will show you isThis is credit card expenditures. We have this. This is not available outside. It's been developed inside and I have it inside my control panel where I can look at it. But this could be made available with some work. We could open this up so that it does... It was developed to give to the public, it just hasn't gone that far yet. Nobody told us to do it so we built code and we kind of worked at it and have it sitting on the back end. And if you'll notice we have it set up so that you can search by the year. So you're able to go by the year. It sets it so that you can pick the department and then you can pick the month. You can then search the data to get your answer and that's what's happened. There it's now searched the data base and found the answers based upon 2009, all departments, all months. But we could modify that to whatever you want."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Is there any way to get that to also include checks or is it just credit cards?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Ok. If you'll notice over here we have credit card. We can do general ledger. It's gonna switch here in just a minute to general ledger. This is general ledger data now that we're looking at. Ok. If we go over here further we can. This was predicated back on 50,000K jobs. But these are the job posts, what the jobs and salary range; based not on name but on the classification."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Position, right."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Right. And we can show job class averages as well. So all of this was done some months ago and the data in here is not current and what we have to do is we have to take the data out of the financial system and import it into a separate data base because it's always been from when Ms. Grant was here that we never let live data be accessible to the public. In other words, the public couldn't touch our data. So we would take it out of our system, put it in a separate system. That way if anything would ever happen to this, if we were ever hacked or whatever, it was never really the County's data. So this is all a separate system. We have to extract it from the financial software, import it in here and then it's searchable in these manners."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Right."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Let's get back to the general ledger as you called it. When Mr. Callanan asked about the checks and the credit cards; so they are together in this area? They're not? They're separate?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "They're separate pages and the data is in two different tables in the backend database."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Well then, ok."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "So the credit cards are...."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Because the credit cards are in the general ledger so I think it's really the AP database."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "That's probably correct."

Committee Member K. Smith: "I just wanna make sure that they are all living in the general ledger together but they are coming from different sources."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Yeah, I'd have to go back and look at the queries or the way the item extracts out of IFAS. I don't know what the extracts look like so I can't state that conclusively. I was reading what it said on the chart."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Because possibly, I don't know if we could combine those. I think it would be confusing, for example: If the County makes an accounts payable check to Lowe's or we could use a procurement card at Lowe's and so it's gonna be... You really want to be able to look at Lowe's and find all charges. You don't want to have to look at two different places for the same vendor."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Right."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Yeah I'm sure we can modify the SQL as it's probably built now."

Council Member Callanan: "But this is still the information that we're getting. It's not from any elected officials right?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "It would include the elected officials, yes. These expenditures flow through....we pay their bills in Finance."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "For the most part, like the Sheriff has a couple of accounts that he writes his own checks for."

Committee Member K. Smith: "A few discretionary accounts and the Clerk of Court does too, but for the most part, all of the expenditures flow through Finance, the majority of them."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Those checks that the Delinquent Tax office writes....it would not include those checks."

Council Member Callanan: "Right, which I wouldn't want there anyway."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "For the most part, it is money we are holding onto for someone else."

Chairman C. Davis: "How current would the data be?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "Well, it would be however often we need it to be current. Now, we do it monthly, but if we need it to be more current, I don't know what the process is to get it to IT and how you all pull it."

Committee Member F. Saldamarco: "I don't have a good answer for that question, but like I said, it is a manual system to extract and then repopulate."

Chairman C. Davis: "How time consuming is that?"

Committee Member F. Saldamarco: "I would think that it is not horribly time consuming if it was put into a routine. I would think that we should be able to write the script for it to be done...I'm not familiar with the backend code. I haven't looked into it. I showed you what we had because you could have said that you wanted the whole world another way and at that stage this didn't matter anymore."

Committee Member K. Smith: "This is a different question that I have to ask. Occasionally, a check may get written and it's written in error and we have to void a check. So I don't know that would be shown in there. Maybe we wrote the check to Lowe's for \$10,000 and the check should have been written to Woody Bilton Ford. So we have to void a check and reissue it, so I don't know how the voids are showing up in there."

Committee Member F. Saldamarco: "And I can't answer that question either."

Committee Member K. Smith: "That's just something we would need.....because we do have to void checks from time to time."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I would think that if we updated it at least monthly that would probably be often enough."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Yes, as long as it was on a regular basis."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "If we did it on the fifth day of every month for the preceding month or something like that. That would get IT on a regular schedule and it

shouldn't be so much information that it would take a long time because you wouldn't want to wait a whole year and have to do a year at a time. A monthly or some sort of set calendar period like that, either monthly or quarterly would make the most sense from a staff perspective and then the access for the public. One question that I have is how are we going to integrate water and sanitation, because they are not on the same system?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "So their checks are not included in that."

Committee Member A. Pinson: "It would be incomplete. They would have to go to a separate water and sanitation website which we have our check register on now."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "In a similar format as this?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "We would have to make it similar to this."

Committee Member A. Pinson: "I'm not sure."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Maybe Frank can answer this...is there a way to marry the two together so there is one complete list?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Well, you certainly made something straightforward just take a curve."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I didn't mean too."

Committee Member A. Pinson: "Now, if you put a tab on there to open jobs it could be linked so if you click on it and they wanted to see water and sanitation, they could still be on your website and click on that and it would take them directly to our website."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I was just going to walk over here to water and sanitation and take a look at what you had. Do you know where it is on your site?"

Committee Member A. Pinson: "It's under Finance."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I see Finance, check registers. It's coming up as a .PDF."

Chairman C. Davis: "You could link it right to that."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Have you integrated the new Finance system in there yet?"

Committee Member A. Pinson: "No we have not. We are getting ready to kick off...Phases of the Finance portion will start in July"

Council Member T. Callanan: "I would think this would be fine and not even try to combine them."

Chairman C. Davis: "I would just put a link. I think a link to that area..."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "This can illustrate the search capabilities that we were talking about. Right here in the Find box, I could type ART and we could do a find and it will find it. If I were to Find Next, it would find every place ART is in. It will even find it in parts. So it will just search the document."

Chairman C. Davis: "I think that is fine."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "It's not quite as user friendly as the other one. You are going to have to click through...the other one you are going to have to pull up..."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Currently, this is the way ours is setup right now. You can search just like this in this mechanism. We have designed something else that allows a little bit of different searching."

Committee Member D. Fish entered the meeting: "I work for a living. I get paid when I produce papers....."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Just to give you a little bit of catching up...we are looking at expenditure side and they actually have a nice program set up where they can take all of the stuff out of accounts payable, which is the credit cards and the check registry and essentially put it into a field so you can do it by year, do it by vendor, do it by month and just search it right there. The old way which is the way water and sanitation is going to have to do it for a while because they are in the process of integrating the new system. The old way is just basically .PDF reports."

Committee Member D. Fish: "Right now, it looks like it is alphabetical on the credit cards."

Council Member T. Callanan: "But, I mean, it's pretty impressive. It's a similar setup for salaries."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Can you go back to that screen real quick? I just wanted to ask Angela a question. Up at the top you have a cash account and a number. That's not our bank account, is it?"

Committee Member A. Pinson: "No, I think that is a general ledger number."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I saw that up there and I wanted to ask about it while I was thinking about it. I'm sorry, Mr. Callanan."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Do you know if procurement card transactions are included in that?"

Chairman C. Davis: "From a legal standpoint, as far as the credit card goes, even though it is internal right now, there is nothing on there....."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I haven't seen it but we are going to make sure that any credit card numbers are not there or anything like that."

Committee Member K. Smith: "I don't think we would download that. We don't download the credit card number in our system."

Committee Member D. Fish: "It is a purchasing card, not a credit card, right?"

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Yes, it is actually a P card."

Committee Member D. Fish: "How about the credit cards?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "If we have, there are just a few departments that have credit cards. The Sheriff's Department is one of them and we pay that bill in finance. We would write a check.

Committee Member D. Fish: "We got rid of the other credit cards?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "Yeah."

Committee Member D. Fish: "I know about two years ago we did a complete analysis on all of them...."

Committee Member K. Smith: "So we don't... the Sheriff's Office has a few and we're working towards that. But most of all the procurement cards you know are out there. We write the check for the credit card payment."

Committee Member D. Fish: "What about purchase orders?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "The purchase orders we pay for that with accounts payable checks or we may pay with a procurement card. I just recently paid for one with a procurement card."

Committee Member D. Fish: "Does it skip the vendor?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "It does."

Committee Member D. Fish: "My concern is that a couple of years ago about a false incident a lot of people... (in audible)... that process really in credit cards."

Committee Member K. Smith: "You know what's interesting about our procurement cards is that if we reach a certain threshold that's determined by Bank of America and the State we get a rebate back so we...last year our charge we would do purchase orders, y'all would do purchase orders and send them to me and I would pay for them with our procurement card and it helped us get a small rebate."

Council Member T. Callanan: "There it is right there."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "A lot of the departments have gone to pay just our bills. Legal gets a telephone bill we use our P Card to pay it or our smalls bills."

Committee Member D. Fish: "Is that on there now?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "No."

Committee Member K. Smith: "This is the new...."

Chairman C. Davis: "It was created but never released."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "This was some months ago we developed this and we just never have brought it out and we kind of were didn't know exactly what would be wanted. So this is... was kind of like, let's start figuring out how we're gonna do it. And so what were looking out right now is 2009 all departments, all months. We could pick a department say Communications. So we would be looking now in a moment it would refresh the data and we're looking at 2009 Communications. All these are all Communications, expenditures for all months. We could narrow that down by the month then. It'll take it a second and it'll refresh, and when it refreshes now we're looking at 2009 Communications for July."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Frank just so that we've got a record on the minutes can you read the headlines of the different fields, the titles of the different fields."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Ok the fields that are being shown are posted description, department, payee, debit and credit."

Council Member T. Callanan: "And those you can click on and it will read, index it?"

2. Posting salaries on the county web site:

- a. Employees who make less than \$75,000.00, post a range only.**
- b. The current salaries for those employees who make \$75,000.00 or above**

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Yes it will order them. Also since we are doing this again what was also developed was a page that would demonstrate all the jobs, classifications, and the salary being paid for that particular."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Currently?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Currently and this one's based on \$50,000 dollars and above. I think in the..."

Council Member T. Callanan: "I think it said seventy-five."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Seventy-five in theso that's a real simple thing to fix."

Council Member Callanan: "If the names are there but see the issue really was with the salaries to me is that you know if your department head you know I could see posting that if it's a lot higher but putting the individuals in there so your neighbors can kind of go in there you know for every employee. And that was a concern for Charleston County when they tried to implement this and they just did like a range but here we're not even putting in a name there which I'm fine with. If you just put the whatever....What's that called, the position ID?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Yeah."

Committee Member K. Smith: "The first column is..."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Position ID, classification and then salary. Those are the three."

Committee Member D. Fish: "But you're talking about for department heads. Publishing the names for them?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "No I could care less as long as the salary is up there."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "And what I would recommend that and I don't know if Ms. Davis is ready to jump down to salaries is that we do comply with FOIA and what FOIA is gonna say is what \$50,000 involve? You're allowed to have specifics and specific salaries. Below that you start giving ranges. My concern about \$75,000.00 is that number could be and someone could say that number just got pulled out of the air but if we did the \$50,000.00 then we just say were following FOIA guidelines."

Chairman C. Davis: "Ok. I agree. So is everybody in agreement with this format?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I think so."

Council Member T. Callanan: "And this gets pulled off of a some sort of query server like if a cost of living adjustment hits it will....?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "All of this data comes out of the finance system so it's gonna be."

Committee Member K. Smith: "I would assume it's coming out of the HR data base if I had to guess."

Council Member T. Callanan: "And the HR data base would keep up to date if there are any changes so if they did this as part of the regular as they were extracted then it would update."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Right, the extracted."

Chairman C. Davis: "So we could update this the same time of the month that we update....? We could...."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I would think that the easiest thing to do is to write the script to repopulate the data base in its entirety so it would extract everything and then repopulate because that is what we would basically do is we would scrub the data base we have for this, we would scrub it and repopulate with fresh data no matter where it comes from, whether it comes out of the HR side or whether it comes out of the finance side. So we'll just scrub it and repopulate completely, and do it once a month."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Now I do have a question on the expenses. I just remembered this; part of my concern is that there is a lump sum of money that half of a million dollars from the accommodations tax which nobody....there's no individual reporting other than hey we kind of check to the Chamber. That...obviously they're not on this system, right? Is there a way to do that where they can send us a spread sheet or report or something like that if we requested it? Were they all individual expenditures?"

Chairman C. Davis: "That's a good idea."

Council Member T. Callanan: "That we just kind of integrate into this?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "We could...I don't..."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Or a separate report?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "Probably because we're gonna show..."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Yeah I agree."

Committee Member K. Smith: "...we're going to write a check to them for example, I think we wrote some checks in the last week... Ms. Umphlett. Actually Ms. Umphlett writes the checks. So when Ms. Umphlett writes the checks it doesn't get on here, remember?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "Ok."

Committee Member K. Smith: "We're not writing the checks in AP. She's writing the checks out of her bank account, so none of those checks are on here."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Even the lump sum money wouldn't be on that report because...."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Even the lump sum money is not on there."

Chairman C. Davis: "What kind of system does...Her system doesn't tie into..."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Well she is on the same system we are but she does everything manually and she does not enter that data into the system."

Chairman C. Davis: "We still could have access to it."

Committee Member K. Smith: "She does the old fashioned journal entries to record. She does traditional journal entries to record the expenses. So we write automatic checks and electronic checks of course in finance that she has been the more traditional"

Council Member T. Callanan: "Journal entry."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Yeah."

Council Member T. Callanan: "And so in her case all of her expense....nearly other departments probably expense we go through this because it's P Card or whatever, in her case no."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Well...and that's correct. I'm trying to think if there's any other monies that would be classified as an expense that she would write by typically not. But she's the one that disperses money, she disperses all the tax money, and she does that with a written manual check and then there's a journal entry that records the entry in the system."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Right."

Chairman C. Davis: "She could still pass that information along to IT..."

Committee Member K. Smith: "She could."

Chairman C. Davis: "To put it on the website."

Committee Member K. Smith: "She could do that."

Chairman C. Davis: "You think that would be asking too much?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "No we could ask her to do that. We could certainly ask her to do that."

Chairman C. Davis: "Ok."

Committee Member D. Fish: “(Inaudible)...we have no idea what they’ve spent. We don’t know what they’ve spent the last four years.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “So if they... We could ask for like a spreadsheet let’s say.”

Committee Member K. Smith: “Yes.”

Committee Member J. Schurlknight: “Kace, their accountants might can get you something.”

Committee Member K. Smith: “We certainly could, we could ask for that.”

Committee Member J. Schurlknight: “I know Hoffman and Hoffman is their accounting firm.”

Committee Member D. Fish: “Who does it?”

Committee Member J. Schurlknight: “Hoffman and Hoffman. West Ashley.”

Committee Member D. Fish: “Do they have reports or monthly accounting or ...?”

Chairman C. Davis: “We need something monthly.”

Committee Member J. Schurlknight: “They do all monthly stuff, approval of checks and everything else; all expenditures.”

Committee Member J. Schurlknight: “I don’t even care about the Chamber stuff I would care about how the Accommodations Tax...”

Committee Member J. Schurlknight: “All that stuff goes through Hoffman and Hoffman; any kind of expenditures.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “And they would have to segregate those funds anyway by Department of Revenue.”

Committee Member K. Smith: “But we could certainly get the payments that Ms. Umphlett writes on here. We could add that in there.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “And then if we were to do the Accommodations Tax because it’s an outside entity with mixing all the data. Then it probably would make sense to do it as a separate report or something. Because we’re talking about half million a year or something like that.”

Committee Member K. Smith: (in audible)

Committee Member J. Schurlknight: “Now doing that is that going to open up doors in other areas like fire departments and fees and stuff. How they get money.”

Committee Member D. Fish: “You mean fire department, how they spend their money?”
Committee Member J. Schurlknight: “Yeah.”

Committee Member D. Fish: “Isn’t that on here too?”

Committee Member K. Smith: “No. Not necessarily.”

Committee Member D. Fish: “How would I search that?”

Committee Member K. Smith: “Well if its tax money coming in Ms. Umphlett is writing the checks. So she...”

Council Member T. Callanan: “But she is dispersing lump sums to them.”

Committee Member K. Smith: “She is dispersing lump sums to them just likes she disperses lump sums to the Chamber. She does the Chamber quarterly.”

Committee Member D. Fish: “We used to get financial reports. Are we getting any financial reports?”

Committee Member K. Smith: “No.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “That’s a lot of unreported expenditures.”

Committee Member D. Fish: “Well they used to.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “I mean the financial reports would have individual expenditures on it?”

Committee Member D. Fish: “Yeah I used to get them from the.... The department would send me a list of the...Not doing it anymore?”

Council Member T. Callanan: “I thought it was kind of vague...”

Committee Member K. Smith: “No. They haven’t been doing it for a while but I can check with them.”

Committee Member D. Fish: “I used to get those all the time.”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “So you have like office expenses posted but nothing real detail.”

Committee Member D. Fish: “Yes I got two or three real small ones... but almost all of them I got from them.”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “And we can certainly ask them to provide updated ones. Remember two, and I don’t if this makes a difference or not in your analysis, as their independent contractor certainly though we’re allowed to ask them for reporting how they spent tax money.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “Sure.”

Committee Member K. Smith: “Well how about others we may give tax money too?”

Council Member T. Callanan: “Who?”

Committee Member K. Smith: “Berkeley Museum, Berkeley Citizens...”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “Would those all show up?”

Committee Member K. Smith: “A payment to them; a disbursement to them.”

Committee Member J. Schurlknight: “But see none of their expenditures and that’s what I’m saying with by going with all the combinations we open up all these people. And get all their expenditures.”

Committee Member D. Fish: “How do we give them money? It’s been that way for years.”

Committee Member K. Smith: “We’ve give them money for...”

Committee Member D. Fish: “(in audible)...I mean what...”

Council Member T. Callanan: “Wait, which one are you talking about? Which one? Berkeley Citizens?”

Committee Member D. Fish: “Berkeley Citizens and seniors.”

Committee Member K. Smith: “We give money to Berkeley Citizens.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “Berkeley Citizens is for the most part, I mean that’s kind of your state mandate, isn’t it? Because Berkeley Citizens wasn’t for very long but Berkeley Citizens was a coordinator for my son. So I assume it has something to do with some state mandate.”

Committee Member D. Fish: (in audible)

Committee Member K. Smith: “And mental health we pay them...”

Council Member T. Callanan: "I don't want to create, I would love it if we put the indication out to these folks that we're attempting to be more open. And to take that into mind with regards to expenditures and create some sort of reporting mechanism where they can maybe not on a monthly basis, maybe on a quarterly basis, or something like that for outside contractors or whatever it is and then provide it back to us because it is tax money. Right? Give them some time to understand kind of what we're looking out I mean I would think just a simple spreadsheet of expenses is not too much to ask.

Chairman C. Davis: "Right because we know it's not that much."

Council Member T. Callanan: "How they spend the money, because it is tax money it's how it's being spent so they have a good accounting of it."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "One thing to that council might want to consider is these outside organizations that we do give money to that we do have the right to call for an auditing of their money. You might want to get them on some rotating schedule where just once every three years you're going to be audited. I don't know how many of these outside organizations we have but just say we have fifteen. Then we will do five every year and we just have a rotating basis that we keep doing them on. It's kind of outside the scope of what we are talking about today but I think that would be a great statement about transparency and we're going to include this."

Chairman C. Davis: "Audited by Berkeley County, us internally?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "I don't know are you gonna ask? I mean you gonna have our firm do it which would cost additional dollars? I mean it will."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "We could look into asking them how much it would cost to do it. We'd have to define the scope first or if not..."

Committee Member D. Fish: "...part of their own. Most of them are non-profit; it's part of the requirement. You can't predict the requirement plan or most of them don't do it.

Committee Member K. Smith: "I guess we could just pay for it."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I have a question, when the county is making these lump sum distributions to these different agencies are the agencies required to keep separate records if they have a revenue stream from another source so as to say maybe you get a half a million dollars from me but I get two million dollars through other mechanisms am I providing you records for two and half million dollars worth of my expenditures because I wasn't required to detail how I spent your half million."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Well in some cases you would assume that they are like in the case of accommodations tax because they are very strict in what you can spend the money

on so I would assume they are not co-mingling that with anything. But they have separate accounting for that. I don't know about these other places?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "I don't know."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I would probably assume for the most part not. If we make a donation to the Family Circle Cup Tournament for example, I doubt their saying we spent Berkeley County's monies on this."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Your money was spent on this..."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Probably thrown in to the pot and same thing..."

Committee Member K. Smith: "And if we want to make that a requirement we certainly can. But if that's a requirement to get our funds then we need them segregated."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Well you know, my thought is and this is kind of a perspective on how it deals with the website is that if we went to the obvious ones, the fire departments, the museum, the chambers, special tax districts....that's tax money and said hey this is where we are going guys and so to not burden them to the extent of a monthly update as we have just say on a quarterly basis we request that you provide us with a spread sheet of your expenditures in a format that if it's in a spreadsheet I would assume that we can give them like a template maybe or something so that you can extract the data from the spreadsheets and aggregate it with everyone else's and put up on a separate one of those. Is that?"

Committee Member D. Fish: "That may be difficult for the fire department (in audible) spreadsheet....excel spreadsheet, what a disaster. Some of the people who were computer literate could do it and do a good job but probably half of them the real small ones..."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Very challenging."

Committee Member D. Fish: "It would take a lot of pick and shovel work to get them out so for you to stick it all in an excel spreadsheet probably be a nightmare."

Council Member T. Callanan: "I'm not going into like categorizing expenses or anything like that. We're really only asking for, on that other sheet, the actual description of the expenditure of whether there's debit or credit right? That's all their reporting now right? And the date."

Chairman C. Davis: "The date."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Date, department..."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Department is automatic because whoever gives us the data."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Date, department, month, description, amount, debit, credit."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "And those could slowly be brought on board."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Right, that's what I'm saying."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "It wouldn't be right off the bat. I could bring in, I think we've got them, if I don't Kace might or Kace's office might, what we ask them to fill out. Unless we're really, really concerned about detail, we might just want to stand those in and post them and then if someone does have a question about them we can follow up with the fire departments, with them."

Council Member T. Callanan: "I agree. I mean, if you want to get something out there right away; but I would think it would be great to get everybody on the same system you know. I don't think we are talking about a tremendous learning curve when we are talking about six pieces of data that we are requesting per transaction. Date, description, the debit amount or credit amount, and I forget what the other one was and the department you know I just think that's something that if we give them far enough in advance that that's something we're looking at. I think it makes sense."

Committee Member J. Schurlknight: "Folks I got to leave I've got another one to get to at seven. Ya'll be careful in the traffic back."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Ok."

Committee Member K. Smith: "I just don't know and I'll use the museum because somehow they are in my mind, I don't know if the museum segregates our dollars. So we give them what fifty-thousand dollars a year that we disperse in four payments throughout the year. So I don't know if they keep our dollars separate and would be able fill those buckets to get to the fifty and maybe that doesn't matter but let's just explore."

Council Member T. Callanan: "What if we...I can view that as kind of a donation."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "It is."

Council Member T. Callanan: "There's no strings attached really on that one. You know but something like A-tax, there clearly is strings attached. Something like fire fees..."

Chairman C. Davis: "The special tax districts."

Council Member T. Callanan: "You would hope that every dollar in the fire fees is going towards related to fire protection. You know, so there are strings attached I think on those two. I agree we can kind of decide whether we are going to make a donation to X and Y."

Committee Member D. Fish: "Spell it out with the major stuff and see how it goes then analyze a little bit later some of those sums."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "That was gonna be my suggestion. Why don't we get a list together of all the entities that we do just do lump sums too and then maybe we could come back at a subsequent meeting and then go over that and say ok..."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Yeah, I agree with that."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "You know this one we're gonna want a little bit more details, this one you know whatever, it's a donation."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I think that would be wise to query them as to how they're taking care of their book keeping now because that can matter."

(unknown side comment)

Council Member T. Callanan: "You know and that's my point you know that this can almost be an instigator, hey start getting your act in order. We're gonna take a look at what we are doing with our expenses online.."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "We are going to be asking you to do this."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Pretty soon we are going to be asking you to do this."

(several people talking about the tape)

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Well that would be my proposals that we get together some more."

Council Member T. Callanan: "I agree."

Chairman C. Davis: "But can't we go forward with what we've got now?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "Let's talk about revenue. Kind of tell me your thoughts on the revenues or what you're interested in seeing on the revenues. Did y'all do anything on the revenues by any chance? So, tell me what you all are looking for."

Council Member T. Callanan: "How did they, I think aggregate numbers on revenues would suffice verses if money comes in...you know."

Committee Member A. Pinson: "You don't need all the..."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "So you don't want to know they are coming from FOIA payments or cable franchise fees or..."

Committee Member A. Pinson: "You want the date details like we do the checks."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Right."

Committee Member K. Smith: "I'm sure you do not want to do that. That's quite large."

Committee Member D. Fish: "What I'm interested in is find number one, what's their tax revenue, the major categories. You talked about some of the small ones and maybe it's other income."

Committee Member A. Pinson: "Ok. Do we want monthly amount? Do we want, if we are doing it with fixtures on monthly, we're doing those during individual payments, so..."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "We gonna have some months where we've got a lot of revenue coming in there."

Committee Member D. Fish: "Tax time all of it comes in and the rest of the year it just trickles in."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Well, property taxes but sales, or I don't know when the State gives them some money but..."

Committee Member K. Smith: "The State gives them some money one time a year; so quarterly but different revenues done then at different times though."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "DMV."

Committee Member D. Fish: "When it comes to those reports a lot of people, what I'd be interested in, is a continuum of this is month, by month, by month. I'd like to see the..."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Cumulative?"

Committee Member D. Fish: "Cumulative you know for revenue I'm not sure expenses that we need to make abut by revenue."

Committee Member K. Smith: "So by major categories."

Committee Member D. Fish: "Like in your budget, expenses analysis, that you do as far as the totals and any questions as you go down lower and you get more information."

Council Member T. Callanan: "In just in your opinion major would be like.."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Yeah that was going to be my question."

Committee Member K. Smith: "I was thinking the categories that we have in the financial statements which are property taxes, fee in lieu, on ones fines fees and permits, but we

get much more details than that. You know, we can get as detailed as you all would like us to be detailed. But we do have some small revenue....”

Council Member T. Callanan: “Right, I don’t think it’s too much detail but like on property tax it’d be nice to divide that a little bit into...”

Committee Member K. Smith: “Into like what category?”

Council Member T. Callanan: “Into automobile manufacturing.”

Committee Member K. Smith: “We can do that, and we have I will tell you there’s some limitations now with the tax systems. I’ll be working with the elected official’s offices and you know everything has been put into property taxes but we do have one, the vehicles has been put into another vehicle...you know. But it’s to break it down to what then property taxes are to real and personal....a little bit more difficult right now with our current system. But we can certainly break that down.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “And that would be a report verses a ...”

Chairman C. Davis: “Searchable data base?”

Council Member T. Callanan: “Searchable data base, right.”

Committee Member K. Smith: “Well I don’t...”

Committee Member D. Fish: “Maybe we don’t need reports on that to the public.”

Committee Member K. Smith: “And I can get you all a draft or something fairly soon.”

Committee Member D. Fish: “What would we even do without going online to do that? I’m not sure do we need those for the public?”

Council Member T. Callanan: “You could run out of expenditures having revenues. I think expenditures probably have a pressing more than the public, but revenues do as well but you know if it’s time consuming when this is already set up. But that’s something we can just say alright let’s just do a report and then put the .pdf up quarterly or something.”

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “Do you do a report on your revenue strength?”

Committee Member K. Smith: “I mean we do a report but I don’t think it’s on there. It’s not listed right now on there, the AP files. And I want to ask one more question about revenues because I tend to think of, I think we have our general fund revenue, we have special revenue fund, special revenue money which is where the accommodations money comes in.”

(end of tape, flip to side two)

Chairman C. Davis: "There it goes."

Committee Member K. Smith: "And we're not talking about collections I would assume that you all are not interested or are we interested in knowing about the taxes collected on behalf of the schools and the town? Did you all want that information out there?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "That might aggravate people so..."

Chairman C. Davis: "Let's leave that alone right now."

Committee Member D. Fish: "Let's first take a look at this."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Let's make it translucent before it's transparent?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "Yeah exactly; I would love for the people to view how much Daniel Island extracts from Berkeley County.... I mean City of Charleston extracts from Berkeley County but that's just me. We can wait on that one."

Committee Member N. Ewing: (side comment) "I kind of got distracted by the recorder. Did y'all address whether it like this sales tax, we've got different kinds of sales tax so would you want the revenue broken down by that?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "I would think so, the different sales tax are the local options sales tax..."

Committee Member K. Smith: "And the one cent, the transportation."

Council Member T. Callanan: "The transportation, and accommodations."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Yeah I get that."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Yeah it is because it's five percent."

Committee Member K. Smith: "And we record them separately. I mean there in different places. The only one that's not is the local options and the Treasurer records that. And property tax that we can segregate that and Finance can help segregate them but the transportation sales tax is sitting in a separate place so it sits by itself. The accommodation sits by itself."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "So we go the tax and the fee so we got to separate those out you know."

Committee Member K. Smith: "They're all segregated. They sit in different places and then they'll sit out there by themselves but we certainly segregate that but I'll do a draft or something."

Committee Member N. Ewing: “Sounds like that will be a little bit more complicated than expenditures but not undoable, or not doable?”

Committee Member K. Smith: “It will be doable. It may not be searchable at this time but maybe it doesn’t need to be searchable or we just need to like how we want to search on it.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “And the last thing is the, what was the last thing, the video?”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “Implement the necessary measures to film and broadcast council meetings and to discuss cable provider’s coverage areas.”

3. Implement the necessary measures to film and broadcast council meetings.

4. Cable providers coverage areas.

Committee Member D. Fish: “Did anybody address the question a fellow from Goose Creek about how we access the audio?”

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “You’re talking about the cable companies or the television crews?”

Committee Member D. Fish: “Somebody who now they just plug in somewhere to get the audio. They’ve got the video but they don’t have any audio.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “Well the audio just comes out awful.”

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “I think Mike Gaskins in our department researched that and I think he came up with the fact that for somewhere in the five to seven hundred dollar range we could provide that capability for them to be able to get into our audio system and record off of it so it’s because I think they’re having to provide, if you provide feeds you can’t say ok well you can have it but you can’t, you have to provide enough feeds for everybody. No matter who shows up for the party, everybody’s got to have a partner to dance.”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “And I guess I think one of the questions we need to decide before we decide about the number of audio feeds is, are we talking about Council taking on the expense of videotaping and broadcasting or is it we’re just going to allow anybody who wants to come in and tape it?”

Council Member T. Callanan: “I think eventually I would like us to take it on the expense but I also know that it is a big expense laboriously and with labor. I talked to the girl that does it over at the school district. It’s a project for IT.”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “Is it?”

Council Member T. Callanan: "And you know my thought is to get something out there and even if we, you know if it's a fixed camera, right? Because you can't have... that's the only way you can really do it."

Chairman C. Davis: "They can see the whole Council."

Council Member T. Callanan: "It's gonna have to be a wide angle from the side, because you can't have eight individual cameras or what have you."

(side comment)

Committee Member D. Fish: "I saw the one... Have you ever seen the one on Comcast now? A while back flipping through there I saw a North Charleston and they just had the one camera."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Yeah and I think that's what Mr. Callanan is talking about."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Yeah but if you're ever in North Charleston's Chamber they spent about fifteen grand on that camera. If you walk in there it's sitting behind them, is that the way you're talking about or is it sitting in front?"

Committee Member D. Fish: "No I mean it's filming them I know they're sitting there so I don't know where the camera is but you can see all of them sitting there in their chairs."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I haven't been in...Is that in their old building or in their new building?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "Yeah in the new building."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Yeah I haven't been in the new building so I don't..."

Council Member T. Callanan: "You know they've, that's part of that ridiculous budget they put in for that new chamber but I mean they spent an enormous amount of money on it."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I think in the old building they just had a camera on a tripod back in the back."

Chairman C. Davis: "That could be sufficient for now."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Well that's what I'm saying you know we could just boom, plop it right there and say you know and provide the public the ability to film and I'm fine even if it's on Youtube as long as it's just a full rendition of the meeting. If the channels, if we want to push it to them and say please rebroadcast this most of the time I go to their public access channels and there's nothing on there anyway. I don't think it would be that much of an issue. Especially if it's still required, I don't know if it's required under new State Law."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "If they ask for one yeah. But that brings up a whole other issue of since we're the providers are do we want to try and get them on all or just one because Comcast does not have everybody in the county. Time Warner's got their little section. Home's got their little section. Comcast has got their section."

Chairman C. Davis: "Is Comcast the largest?"

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I brought maps. GIS pulled... it's mostly in the Summerville area."

Committee Member D. Fish: "It's in that one area, basically Sangaree."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Yeah I think that primarily... so we got Home, Time Warner, Comcast..."

Council Member T. Callanan: "And AT&T is the entire county but they don't offer it but they"

Committee Member N. Ewing: "And this is what I'm not sure of, is I'm not sure if they are actually all over here. I believe Home, well yeah see Home has a franchise for the entire county but they are not in the entire county."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Right."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I think the same thing with AT&T. They probably can also be in this yellow area possibly."

Council Member T. Callanan: "I think it's probably wherever AT&T offers internet access is what it is. That's how they want to do it is do it over satellite."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Because they want to yeah, bundle them all together. So I don't have a way that I know of..."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Who serves Moncks Corner? Oh, Home serves Moncks Corner."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Yeah."

Council Member T. Callanan: "And then TDS serves St. Stephen."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "See I don't even have them on there so I don't even know who TDS is. They bought out by Home?"

Committee Member A. Pinson: (in audible)

Committee Member N. Ewing: "They said a different name? Remember what it is?"

(Several persons talking at once low volume)

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I can't remember it now."

Council Member T. Callanan: "You know my thought is because we're not talking about broadcasting, right? At first, so we can actually just get it out there. We're talking about giving access and then you know as long as it is unedited on the bridge."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Yeah right."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Well I mean you don't want it there during Executive Session."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "No but they can turn they could turn the camera off for a minute."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Yeah its fine to edit it at time in between you know just from the time the red lights blink. You provide sensitive organization that's willing to do this and provide it. If the meetings in session until it's not in session then they could put it on Youtube for everybody and then if they, you know if they agree that they can provide it to the county and if it's suitable at that point they could provide the raw video to the county then the county is the one that asks the cable provider. I'm just trying to say how can we do it cheaper right now?"

Committee Member N. Ewing: "My concern was...I agree with you in that if we just provide access you know Nicole's husband's brother's dog's spouse wants to come in and tape it. They can tape it. We'll have to decide how many audio feeds we want to offer and how we are going to implement it, you know is it a first come first serve basis that kind of thing and as they want to put it on Youtube or watch it at family reunions have at it. When the county takes more ownership of it, like when we arrange for broadcast I would think that we would want to ensure that it's an actual representation of what occurred. I wouldn't want anybody to go in and edit it or put things out of context. Change things around so it's kind of like a....you know."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Yeah I get what you're saying. But then that really... I think as a first step to provide that and then maybe I don't know in the next budget year or something like that we determine what it's going to cost to actually have someone there to film it, put it through the editing, formatting process and get it ready for rebroadcast. So I think this is fantastic because we can actually come out and say hey you know we've got something that we can implement real quickly and on the video side you know it's costing money it's gonna take a little time but in the meantime you know we can recommend that we open up five, whatever the break out box the guys talking about here."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "And is that seven hundred for multiple feeds or?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Multiple."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Ok."

Chairman C. Davis: "Are these multiple?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I don't know... I didn't..."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Well it's still I think..."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "What we did was we figured, I think when they were figuring it. They were thinking primary news channels. Channel 2, Channel 5, Comcast, and so I'm gonna guess they provisioned from that standpoint but if you're looking at it that you're trying to provide it in a wider area. If seven hundred does this much, you got that much more to provide you know a little bit bigger bang."

Council Member T. Callanan: "I don't think you would need it and to be honest with you because I've never seen more than two TV stations up here in order of the years or so."

Committee Member D. Fish: "Just to have a video of the meeting or the audio. Who's the guy that did the taping? Who was that?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "That was Tom..."

Council Member T. Callanan: "I mean that's why you need someone if they are going to do it in the mean time until we do it you know you need someone who's there for our....I'm going to ask him if, well he's got an interesting story, he just had all of his equipment essentially purchased by the US Government for him because he's a disabled veteran and so he's got gobs of equipment. I'm gonna ask him if can leave one camera available for us to have, to just give to a citizen on a monthly basis to have them come up there and do it. It's not complicated when you're talking about a fixed camera. It's getting up there twenty minutes early, boom, planting the tripod, setting the camera, and probably be a wireless little transmitter receiver from the audio, that's right on the camera."

Chairman C. Davis: "And then what happens to it?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "They would provide...All you provide is the out. They provide the transmitter receiver. I'm guessing you know that, that should be satisfactory. Say you know, it's just temporary until the county does this but can we leave a camera for this person's possession for x period of time and at least be able to provide something in the meantime."

Chairman C. Davis: "Where would you provide it?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "Just on Youtube. And that's my position. Hey look, it's being provided at a global basis. If you can't get it, you can go to the library and get it. So you know it's....no one can say it's not being provided while we figure out the kinks of providing it ourselves."

Chairman C. Davis: "Ok."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "So who would own the broadcast?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "Well if it's filmed privately then the private person would own it until such time as the County takes on itself. My position is it's just like I said you know if they're going to do it....well I guess you can't really dictate to them what they could do because a news station is not gonna rebroadcast the entire thing they just want it so they can better hear on the clips that they put on there. But you know I can personally just to the people I'm talking to and say look, just do an unedited version for us and then they'd be happy to do it. I mean I just groups of people, I have like people who just really just want to do one of those value added services that they want to do as a citizen that doesn't really...other than cutting out in between meetings."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "We could stop the tape at that point."

Council Member T. Callanan: "But in case you know it's messy or something like that they can go in there and they can..."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Frank would we have the capability of having the video accessible through our website?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "We don't have the bandwidth for that."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Ok."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "First of all we don't know what format they are shooting in what the output is going to be. Are they shooting it in .jpeg 2000, mpeg 4, h.264, you can just go on and on and on. That's exactly the case."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Something only he and Cathy understand."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Well you know but my point is that cognoscibility an unedited version and they film it and they put it on Youtube I mean they can always do the link to Youtube couldn't they?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "As far as that's concern, if a private citizen shoots film and we allow them to shoot in our area and they put it out on Youtube that's their business. You know what I mean."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "It's their business unless they are doing it at the request of the County and that's where, you know if someone wants to come in and tape it and he takes it away and he does whatever he wants with it well that's just different."

Council Member T. Callanan: "That's different."

Committee Member N. Ewing: “But if he’s doing it at the request of the County we’re gonna want have to have some sort of assurances and I’ll have to think about what format needs to be that he or she is just like you said gonna put it out there in its beauty and it’s ugliness and what happens, happens and we’re not gonna pretty it up or voice over(s) or any of that kind of thing. Like I said, where the County takes total control over it which will cost funding which Mr. Callanan pointed out, there’s where all we do is provide the audio feed and then whoever shows up to tape, shows up to tape and they go make funny cartoons out of all us on Youtube and then there’s this in between thing where we want it done and so we’re asking citizens to help us but what right’s do we have over editorial content?”

Council Member T. Callanan: “And what I would probably say is that if you provide the link to where it’s hosted on a Youtube, it’s a situation where if they screw up and decide to put like twenty second commercial in front of it or something like that then at that point say no you guys screwed up no we’re done. You can actually continue to do it we’re just not going to provide the link on our website because we’re a government and you don’t do that. So if they do anything to toy with it for profit or trying to get their point across or something like that or violence. Then at that point you could just say one strike and you’re out type of scenario or you can just simply say leave it up to them to let the people know where they can find the meetings. They create a channel under a user name and preferably the only thing that would be there is a whole series of meetings.

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “Would it be, considering that this is February and the new budget is in July, would it be prudent to devise a methodology for the County to do this and not do the interim piece where we have private citizens involved and we just lay out a good logic as to how we want to accomplish this, the medium we want for delivery and then, because....”

Council Member T. Callanan: “I don’t have a problem with that.

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “We’re talking about a few months. We’re talking about a few months to plan to do this rather than trying to...”

Council Member T. Callanan: “I think regardless we should still provide audio feed.”

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “Sure. Right. No problem.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “And if we provide audio feed then do with it what you want and then not do the link on the website. Leave it up to them to handle it, you know if they want to get the word out to their groups where they can find the meetings and so on and so forth and then we just don’t even mess with it until if and we decide how we’re gonna move forward with it in the next budget year.”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “From a legal standpoint, I’m more comfortable with that.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “Yeah let’s just do that. As long as we’re providing audio, we are providing something to them right?”

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Right."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Just say look, now we are providing you a way for you to fill the...and get better...you can hear it."

Committee Member D. Fish: "I'd like to know what it would cost to do the standing camera."

Chairman C. Davis: "Right, I don't see that as a huge expense."

Council Member T. Callanan: "It depends..."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "It depends on how fancy you want to get with it and how...."

(several talking at once)

Committee Member D. Fish: "...so we could take it up off of any place we decide to put it."

Council Member T. Callanan: "The different channels are going to have different standards and it depends. They may require certain quality."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I would say that that would be one of the first things we'd want to find out is if these are the providers let's ask them what their standard is for providing them so that we will learn."

Committee Member D. Fish: "Would we have access to their public channel number one, how much it costs, and what are your requirements to do so? I think we need to know that first."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Will their actual providing it would be, the channel, would be free? Now whether or not we want to have it taped and then give them I guess copies? I don't know, are we talking about broadcasting live?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "No."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "No? Ok."

(side comment)

Committee Member N. Ewing: "And the other thing we'll have to determine, I think we'll have to get a better sense of who serves where and we may not be able to get everybody. We may have to say depending on the cost and the way it's set up is Comcast provides the most, serves the most number of houses in the County we're gonna go with them. And I think a lot

more research will be done on that and we'll have to come back and hash it out and then probably take bids on the videography and that kind of thing."

Chairman C. Davis: "Who's budget would that come out of?"

Committee Member D. Fish: "Is to find out kind of what we are talking about before it ever goes to budget. Is that something we need to take a look at this year? I think we need to then; Is that possible to get that in say two months? You can start this work here right now aren't you?"

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I think so. I think we can probably pull it together. It would probably be my suggestion that since this is a Council initiative they go ahead be under Council budget we just incorporate whatever we need for it. Frank do you have any idea about how to go about how to go about looking into this?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Well I would think that we would contact each one of the cable companies and we would begin asking them what it's going...we know they are gonna provide a free access channel. Now what do we need to provide in order to utilize that and let them come back to us and we would then understand the formats for the different ones and ask them for their suggestions as to how to set this up so I'm sure that Home Telephone would be more than happy to come out here and tell us what they believe would be the best way to do that. I'm sure that Comcast would as well. So before long, we'll become knowledgeable about the best way to approach it and the cost for doing it."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "At the same time we're asking them that we can also ask them to provide the number of houses that they serve within the County too because I would think that would be a number that they can just pull up."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Yeah."

Chairman C. Davis: "Can IT take that on?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I will explore that for you."

Chairman C. Davis: "Ok."

Council Member T. Callanan: "And can we get a, I don't know how we would procreate the money for that audio break out box for....do we have money in the Council account?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "We usually, County Council usually has money left over in their operating account. So if you're talking like one thousand dollars I would feel very comfortable knowing that you would have adequate funds in there."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Okie doke."

Chairman C. Davis: "So how do we want to move on that?"

Committee Member N. Ewing: “Should IT get together a, should IT...because it sounds like they’ve done some research on it get an estimated cost to I guess Mr. Steve Davis or to you and then you can contact Mr. Steve Davis?”

Chairman C. Davis: “For the audio?”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “I don’t know how you got...who decides who spends your money.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “Yeah do that and then...”

Committee Member D. Fish: (side comment)

Committee Member N. Ewing: “Alright that’s what I’m saying. We can just email him or whatever. He’s gonna be like...”

Chairman C. Davis: “This is for the audio feed right?”

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “Yeah, audio feed. I’m gonna send you whatever information we’ve gathered so you can understand the expenditure of it.”

Chairman C. Davis: “Ok, and how many connections that is... you’ll have...and so for the other part IT can explore and contact the main cable service providers and find out what format and what their requirements are?”

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “Right.”

Chairman C. Davis: “Ok.”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “And Frank if you need help with contact info, we may have some in Legal. I don’t know how recent it is but I can at least try and help you out on that. Home is obviously easy, you guys probably talk to them all the time but...”

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “We’re talking to them more frequently.”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “I don’t even know that who is in charge of the AT&T. I don’t think I’ve ever even met anyone from there.”

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “I think I can look up her name too.”

Committee Member K. Smith: “I’ve had contact with AT&T so...”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “But if you need anything from me let me know.”

Chairman C. Davis: "So the first things would be the audio feed and how about the website. What...for the credit card portion...What would be required to make that...whatever is on the intranet now? What would be required to make that?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "We don't have a... that's not on the intranet."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "It's on his...Oh, we can get to it?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "I can get that..."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "No but it is on the intranet. Got to make it live."

Chairman C. Davis: "To make it accessible outside of this building."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Well we had two or three questions there. You wanted to aggregate the credit card information into...because it's separate right now."

Committee Member K. Smith: "I would think that would be good to do. Yes."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "So the first thing I need to look at is I need to look at the backend database to make sure how we got that database set up. Once I know how its set up then I can look at the extracts and then once we determine that we can bring those two things together then it's nothing to make it visible. Making it visible is the easy part and when we write this you've also said that what you wanna do is be able to bring information in from another format into it when we're dealing with these outside agencies and while that... I know that that's not..."

Chairman C. Davis: "Yeah but that's later."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I understand that that's later but it needs to go into the planning and design on this end so that when that happens it's not a rip and replace it's just an addition too."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Well I'm thinking if it's easier so we don't mess that up, keep those as a separate page."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Separate report."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Separate report."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Ok we can take what's developed and put it out there rapidly right now by making it viewable and then we can refine after that so I'd say in the next week or two we could have all that where it's viewable and accessible to the resident and then we can work on the integration of all the information into a central database and then another presentation appearance so that they can search it."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Right, I think it would be great if we just did, when we bring this up for approval, if we just did a little demonstration."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Show them what it will actually look like?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Yeah which we can do."

Council Member T. Callanan: "I mean we're not talking much maybe five or ten minutes. Here's what we have, I mean say we originally have .pdf reports, now we have you go on there, you click on the department, so on and so forth it's great."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "What we can do is we can make it where it's an unpublicized link so we'll know where it is and we can go to it and we can demonstrate it and then once we have approval we just make that link active for the world to find."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Right."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Do you think Frank that you can have that ready by the Finance Committee Meeting at the end of the month which is the 26th, is that right? Two weeks from the 14th."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Probably."

Council Member T. Callanan: "It's the 28th."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "14th... my week is wrong. Because Ms. Davis could make her report out to Mr. Schurlknight's Committee and then Council could take, the Committee could vote on it and then Council could take action on it that night."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "So the 28th?"

Committee Member N. Ewing: "The 28th."

Chairman C. Davis: "Is that doable?"

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "I think so. I think all that's missing right now is that there's no 2011 and so the database hasn't been prepped to access new information from IFAS. We'd have to do that and I think you'd need the seventy five thousand or the fifty thousand dollars where your marks at so I need to make sure that data is accurate and then we make it visible."

Committee Member K. Smith: "You all won't be doing the towering too...are we gonna incorporate there's? Water and Sanitation's and then the County's or are you gonna have two lists? So..."

Chairman C. Davis: "I think we should have a link in the same area."

Committee Member A. Pinson: "I think she meant should you include the salaries with yours as all County salaries or do it like we're gonna do the check writing..."

Committee Member K. Smith: "If we are gonna segregate how would you know..."

Committee Member A. Pinson: "...on the Water and Sanitation's website."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Well honestly we can't create a script to pull their stuff in, right? More than likely?"

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Their list of fifty thousand plus salaries would be fairly short and so it can probably be..."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "My question is that not in HR's? in our HR's?"

Committee Member K. Smith: "No, it's not in our HR database."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "It's not in our HR database. Ok. So do you categorize the same way we do with your job positions?"

Committee Member A. Pinson: "No our classification codes and grades are different."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Ok so I actually think that it would be wise to keep them separate from that standpoint."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Can we just do it with the same link?"

Chairman C. Davis: "The link in the same area that the salaries are on for Berkeley County to hop over to Water and Sanitation."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: "Yeah."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Because in this case, there not that many."

Committee Member A. Pinson: "No, my only concern is that people, we have to make it very clear that there is in fact from the expenditures and the salaries because a citizen is not going to think about going, I don't think a citizen would think about going to two separate places..."

(several talking at once)

Council Member T. Callanan: "We'd put the link right next to it."

Chairman C. Davis: "Right next to it."

Committee Member A. Pinson: “Just make sure that we make it very clear and when we are distinguishing and we got all the other departments and then we’ve got Water and Sanitation over there.”

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “Just plug your logo in or whatever that seal you got up there and we’ll plug that right beside it so there is a picture.”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “And with a little tag line that says for Berkeley County Water and Sanitation positions click below, for Berkeley County Water and Sanitation expenditures...you know.”

Committee Member A. Pinson: “So fifty thousand year and under is the grade, the position and the range correct?”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “We’re just doing fifty and above right? We’re not going to worry about...”

Committee Member A. Pinson: “Yeah I remember that but it’s not range? Right, the fifty and above is”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “Is exact salary.”

Committee Member A. Pinson: “Doing position or name or?”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “Position and exact salary.”

Committee Member A. Pinson: “Ok.”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “And we have on ours the way we got it set up is we’ve got some sort of position ID number or something like that. Which don’t mean anything to anybody outside us...yeah.”

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “Helps us keep it straight though.”

Committee Member K. Smith: “It’s a swap pretty much what that is.”

Chairman C. Davis: “Will each of these decisions that we make or present have to be voted on? Or approved by Council or we just do them as a whole?”

We just do them as a whole.”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “I would present them as a whole and then let Council decide how they want to, you know if anybody has a real heartburn with one of them they could ask to have it separated out kind of like what we do with the second readings and that kind of stuff. I mean really the only thing to really vote on are the expenditures, the audio feed and the

salaries, and then let them know I guess that we are gonna investigate a more sophisticated system for broadcasting and come back with an estimated budget for possible inclusion in the..."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Yeah and just said we're not gonna keep where not gonna dissolve the sub-committee right? Say something like that. We'll keep it active and...."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Because we want to come back and address those outside agencies."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Right and we're gonna say we're gonna address these two, the outside agencies reporting expenditures and the camera and broadcast."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Ok on the revenues by the 28th..."

Council Member T. Callanan: "Why don't we add that to our..."

Committee Member K. Smith: "Ok, I can certainly provide you all a draft on maybe IT's breakdown and all the major categories and to see if ya'll want to add or make it...get more detailed or less detailed so..."

Chairman C. Davis: "No that's good."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Do you want to try and have a maybe a brief meeting before the committee meetings on that night just to kind of regroup?"

Chairman C. Davis: "Like at five?"

Committee Member N. Ewing: "Five or even Five thirty."

Committee Member K. Smith: "I don't..."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "I don't think it needs to be real long just..."

Chairman C. Davis: "Will you be able to be here?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "I'm not going to be able to make it."

Committee Member N. Ewing: "No, since we were all gonna be here anyway. We'll just wait for you to call another meeting."

Chairman C. Davis: "So do you guys want to meet before the 28th?"

Council Member T. Callanan: "I don't see why we have to I mean..."

Chairman C. Davis: "You can just write this up..."

Committee Member F. Saldmarco: “You just want information? You just want ... (in audible)...information as I find it? You can keep everybody updated.”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “I guess if Frank comes up with some sort of issue between now and then maybe you might need to meet. You could email...”

Chairman C. Davis: “Just present what we got and what we need action on and what we come up with.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “And then you know in March or something we meet again. Or maybe, I don’t know how long it takes to get that information back but we can just do something like right after March while we...because what I would like to do and I think it would probably make sense if we’re going to announce that we are gonna...”

Committee Member N. Ewing: “Let’s just look before actually considering putting it in the budget you know.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “We’ll just do it in March.”

Committee Member D. Fish: “At least the people will be aware we are doing something.”

Council Member T. Callanan: “Exactly, it’s pretty substantial what we are doing. I think people will be comfortable with that? Alright.”

Chairman C. Davis: “Anybody got anything else? We’re adjourned.”

ADJOURNMENT

July 15, 2011

Date Approved